

# SUMMARY OF THE WEEK'S NEWS

Republican and Democratic members of the House committee on interstate and foreign commerce have agreed on a railroad rate regulation bill, and it will be unanimously reported to the House. There is no doubt the bill will pass and be sent to the Senate.

The Tampa Herald made vigorous protest for the closing of saloons in that city on Sunday, and so well was the protest headed that last Sunday several saloons were raided and violators of the law arrested—a crusade for a reform bearing quick and gratifying results.

Sea island cotton growers of Columbia County have perfected organization, and have asked President Harvie Jordan of the Southern Cotton Association to call a meeting of the sea island cotton growers for the purpose of advancing their interests and bettering their condition.

The Birmingham, Columbus & St. Andrews Bay Railroad has been graded for forty-five miles south of Chipley toward St. Andrews Bay, or to a point only five miles from the latter place; also six miles of track has been laid and rails for ten more miles have been distributed.

Judge Malone of the Second District Court has dissolved the temporary injunction secured by the Tallahassee Southeastern Railway Company against the trustees of the Internal Improvement Commission, the purpose of the injunction being to restrain the trustees from selling 100,000 acres of land claimed by the railway company under legislative grant.

The Y. M. C. A. is receiving substantial encouragement in Florida, the late John M. Long of Tampa bequeathing a valuable property in that city to the Y. M. C. A. for a building site, while at St. Augustine H. M. Flagler will build a handsome three-story home for the Railway Y. M. C. A. at a cost of more than \$25,000.

The Florida Baptist Convention, in fiftieth annual session at Bartow last week, held one of the most important and best-attended meetings in its history. Next year the convention will be held at Live Oak. During the session the delegates in a body visited Arcadia, where the handsome brick building of the Florida Baptist Orphanage was dedicated.

Fort Pierce is growing so rapidly that officials of the East Coast Railway have decided that better station facilities are necessary, and if the land required for the improvement can be secured a handsome two-story passenger depot will be erected and more sidings will be built. Undoubtedly the sentiment of progress will prevail and the citizens of the thriving city will aid in the movement.

The market for Florida oranges in New York is ranging from \$1.25 to \$2.50, while grapefruit is in good demand, some fancy bringing \$6. The fruit, however, is said to be carrying badly, warm and varying temperatures during packing causing decay while on the road. Haste of the growers to market the crop does not seem to afford profitable result, yet fear of frost is responsible for such condition.

Another chapter in the fight for the control of the Atlanta News is the temporary injunction secured against John Temple Graves, editor-in-chief, prohibiting him from using the editorial columns of his paper for his personal advancement or in his candidacy for United States Senator; from reproducing laudatory comments on his candidacy from other papers of the State, and from declaring the Atlanta News for or against any one of the candidates for the Governorship of Georgia.

Major-General J. Clifford R. Foster, Adjutant General of Florida, accompanied by Col. J. W. Sack-



ett, commanding the First Regiment of Infantry, and Maj. Jacob Gumbinger, commanding the Artillery Corps, Florida State Corps, were in Washington this week to attend the annual convention of the Interstate National Guard Association. President Roosevelt, in an address to the delegates, declared that the National Guard should be trained in marching and shooting, so as to be ready for service in time of war.

The President has sent a message to Congress urging an appropriation of \$25,000 for the employment of experts to investigate the methods employed in the executive departments in connection with the work of the Keep Commission. He said that the commission had taken up its work vigorously, and that the preliminary investigation had been practically completed, but it was now necessary to enter on a detailed inquiry which the members of the commission could not conduct, and for this purpose it would be necessary to secure outside assistance.

Much sensational testimony is being produced in the trial of Norman Hapgood, editor of Collier's Weekly, charged with criminal libel of Justice Deuel, who was alleged to have taken an active part in the publication of Town Topics. The business methods of Town Topics are being revealed, and among the disclosures is the fact that Colonel Mann, controlling owner of the paper, borrowed nearly \$200,000 from wealthy men of New York, giving as security shares of Town Topics stock, upon which he placed the value of \$1,000 a share, though the par value of the stock was but \$10 a share.

## IRONCLAD AUTOMOBILE WITH MACHINE GUN FOR KAISER.

Berlin.—That Germany is prepared for war is evident from the fact that the Kaiser's war automobile is daily exercised in the court yard and park of the Ministry of War.

The carriage proper is closed and steel-clad all around. There are portholes fore and aft and at the sides, serving as lookouts, but these, too, can be instantly protected by steel shields, operated by the driver or the occupant of the carriage.

The chauffeur is seated in a bullet and bomb-proof conning tower, while in the rear of the car is a platform for a machine gun that can be pointed in any direction. The gunners are protected by shields all around and overhead. The interior of the car is splendidly ventilated by a new process. Light is furnished by electricity. The speed is about thirty miles an hour on good roads, and the Emperor's carriage contains all possible conveniences.

## AMERICAN GIRL TO HAVE HIGH POST AT KAISER'S COURT.

The former Mrs. William Mathew Lay of Washington, nee May Lowney of Baltimore, now Countess von Goetzen, wife of the Kaiser's Viceroy in German East Africa, will occupy a high official post in Berlin hereafter. Count Goetzen is slated for the position of Director of Colonies, and as the Kaiser is very fond of this official, he may find ways and means, with the assistance of Parliament, to make him Minister of the Colonies. As the wife of an imperial minister, the former May Lowney would occupy a commanding position in the German capital, superior, socially, to that of any other American woman. She would reside in a palace, owned and maintained by the Government, and her present income, already very large, would be considerably augmented. The proposed advancement of Count Goetzen is a proof of the Kaiser's confidence in the former military attaché at Washington, for Goetzen's vicereignty is at present in a state of revolt.